

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/869,268

Examiner

Judson H. Jones

Applicant(s)

YAMAMOTO ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed 2/19/2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2,4-7 and 10-14.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.
5. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
 - (a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

7. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No. _____.
 - (b) ☒ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed 19 February 2003, which has been approved by the Examiner.
 - (c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the top margin (not the back) of each sheet. The drawings should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal letter addressed to the Official Draftsperson.

9. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. _____ |
| 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449), Paper No. _____ | 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1, 2, 4-7 and 10-14 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art of record does not disclose or teach multiple thin plates of an inner yoke being the same shape and same dimension with each of the thin plates having strong magnetic permeability in parallel to one of the X or Y axis as recited in claims 1 and 10. The prior art of record does not disclose or teach a linear motor wherein the radius of curvature of the inner periphery of the outer yoke is equal to the radius of curvature of the inner periphery of the slot, and the radius of curvature of the outer periphery of the outer yoke is equal to the radius of curvature of the outer periphery of the outer yoke and the radius of curvature of the outer periphery of the outer yoke is greater than the radius of curvature of the inner periphery of the outer yoke or the slot combined with the other features of claim 11. The prior art of record does not disclose or teach a linear motor having two inner yokes are integrated with two inner yoke support members positioned separately in the direction of the Y axis in combination with the other features of claim 13.

While original claim 3 was rejected over Takahashi et al. and figure 3 of Redlich, Takahashi et al. shows an outer coil acting on inner magnets. Redlich discloses inner coils acting on outer magnets in figure 3. In figure 9 Redlich discloses outer coils acting on inner magnets. If one were to look to the teachings of Takahashi et al. to improve the motor of Redlich, the most likely combination would be Redlich figure 9 and Takahashi et al. instead of Redlich figure 3. No motivation has been found for combining an E shaped yoke as taught by Takahashi et al. in figure 11a for use with an outer coil/inner magnet embodiment with the inner coil/outer magnet

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embodiment as shown in figure 3 of Redlich. Therefore the previous rejection of the subject matter of claim 3, which is now included in independent claims 1 and 10, is withdrawn.

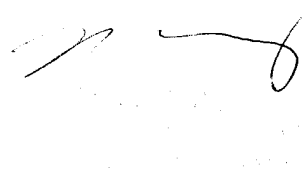
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Judson H Jones whose telephone number is 703-308-0115. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-4:30 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nestor Ramirez can be reached on 703-308-1371. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-305-3431 for regular communications and 703-305-3432 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0956.

JHJ
April 19, 2003

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "J. H. Jones", is located in the lower right quadrant of the page. The signature is fluid and cursive.